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Project Location

The peri-urban ger areas around four of the largest cities in Mongolia: Ulaanbaatar, Darkhan, Erdenet and Choibalsan.

Ger areas are long strips of fenced-in, unserved housing plots that surround cities in Mongolia. Inside each high wooden fenced area are gers—traditional Mongolian tent dwellings—and/or owner-built houses that lack heat, water, and sanitation services.

The project serves a total estimated peri-urban population of 570,000: 500,000 in Ulaanbaatar, 30,000 in Erdenet, and 20,000 each in Darkhan and Choibalsan.

Project Goal

To develop and strengthen the economy of the peri-urban areas of Mongolia.

Project Objectives

- Increase in the number of productive ger area businesses
- Increase employment in the ger areas

Funding Period

August 2002 – March 2006

Major Accomplishments

(through May 2005)

- Helped create 98 new businesses
- Strengthened 474 businesses
- Generated 522 jobs
- Partnered with 56 larger businesses to create employment and business linkages for peri-urban residents and microenterprises
- Collaborated with key commercial banks to provide new loan products with lower interest rates to peri-urban enterprises
- Facilitated 2,053 loans worth over US\$1,916,000 to peri-urban microenterprises
- Organized five trade fairs resulting in sales of more than \$25,000
- Created and assisted 95 business groups and associations
- Matched 2,339 peri-urban residents to long-term job opportunities
- Coordinated vocational training for 336 peri-urban residents.

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